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Message Text

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52
ACTION EA-13

INFO OCT-01 RSR-01 ADP-00 SS-15 NSC-10 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 PRS-01 DODE-00 PM-03 L-02 IO-03 EUR-10

NSCE-00 SSO-00 /070 W
---------- 058131
P 281005 Z APR 73
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 908
USDEL JEC PARIS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 7420

EO 11652 GDS
TAGS MARR, MOPS, VS
SUBJECT VNAF " FORGETS" TO REPAINT ITS HELICOPTERS

FOL SENT SAIGON FM CANTHO INFO DANANG NHA TRANG BIEN HOA
AND RPTF TO YOU FOR INFO QTE:

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAN THO 0252

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR, MOPS, VS
SUBJECT: VNAF " FORGETS" TO REPAINT ITS HELICOPTERS

LIMDIS

1. SUMMARY: AMERICANS AND CANADIANS SAW AN ICCS- MARKED VNAF HELICOPTER PARTICIPATING IN A COMBAT MISSION IN CHUONG THIEN APRIL 26. THE HUNGARIANS AND POLES MAY HAVE SEEN THE SAME CHOPPER. THE HELICOPTER AND SEVERAL LIKE IT WERE INHERITED FROM DEPARTING US MILITARY. VNAF FAILED TO REMOVE THE MARKINGS. IF THE POLES AND HUNGARIANS ARE ABLE TO MAKE AN ISSUE OF VNAF STUPIDITY, THEY COULD COUNTERPOISE THE EFFECT OF THE LAO BAO INCIDENT. END SUMMARY.

2. THE CONSULATE GENERAL RECEIVED A REPORT APRIL 27 FROM THE CHUONG
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THIEN- PHONG DINH INTERPROVINCE REPRESENTATIVE THAT A VNAF HELICPOTER
BEARING ICCS MARKINGS WAS SEEN THE DAY BEFORE TRANSPORTING MEN AND MATERIEL INTO 21 ST DIVISION MILITARY OPERATION IN SOUTHERN CHUONG THIEN. A CONSULATE GENERAL OFFICER RETURINING FROM KIEN HOA APRIL 26 NOTICED SEVERAL VNAF HELICOPTERS WITH ICCS MARKINGS PARKED ON THE CAN THO AIRPORT RUNWAY.

2. BASED ON THESE REPORTS, THE CONSULATE GENERAL OFFICER MET WITH BG HUYNH VAN LAC, THE MR IV CHIEF OF STAFF, AROFESSIONAL HIERARCHIES IN THE AMERICAN TRADITION, E. G., FROM BUSINESS TO POLITICS, IS NOT AS COMMON AS IN THE UNITED STATES, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE LEGAL AND ACADEMIC PROFESSIONS. WHILE NOT ALL CONTENDERS MAKE THE GRADE, THE MAVERICK ALMOST NEVER DOES AND WE BELIEVE IT MOST EFFECTIVE TO CONCENTRATE OUR EFFORTS ON THOSE WITHIN THE AFOREMENTIONED CATEGORIES WHO HAVE REACHED AT LEAST THE FIRST BENCHMARK OF SUCCESS.

WITH SPECIFIC REGARD TO THE CATEGORIES SELECTED, THE MAJOR IMPORTANCE ASSIGNED TO THE POLITICAL SECTOR IS A REFLECTION OF THAT GROUP' S PREDOMINANT VOICE IN POLICY FOR-MULATION AND THE TRADITIONAL LINKAGE, INCLUDING DIRECT PATRON-AGE, THE MANY " OLD BOY" CIRCUITS, AND LESS DIRECT FORMS OF INFLUENTIAL LINKAGE, BETWEEN POLITICAL PARTY ORIENTATION AND SUCCESS AND LEADERSHIP IN OTHER FIELDS. CONVERSELY, OUR LACK OF EMPHASIS ON UNIVERSITY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL LEADERS IS DE-TERMINED BY THEIR LACK OF INFLUENCE IN GENERAL AND IN PARTICULAR THEIR DECIDEDLY POOR TRACK RECORD IN THE LONG- TERM LEADERSHIP RACE.

THE CHURCH RELATIONSHIP IS DISTORTED BY THE EXISTENCE OF THE VATICAN IN ITALY. WE CAN DEAL EASILY WITH THE VATICAN BUT THE ITALIAN CHURCH STRUCTURE IS MORE DIFFICULT TO REACH THROUGH OFFICIAL CONTACTS. WE ARE ALSO CONCERNED THAT THE REDUCED AMOUNT OF MILITARY TRAINING IN THE UNITED STATES BY YOUNG ITALIAN OFFICERS MAY TEND TO CREATE A GAP IN UNITED STATES/ ITALIAN RAPPORT AND LEAD TO A DIMINISHING US INFLUENCE IF THE TREND CONTINUES.

C. THERE ARE NO YOUTH GROUPS OR INSTITUTIONS WHICH CAN BE EXPECTED TO HAVE ANY MAJOR IMPACT ON US INTERESTS IN ITALY IN THE NEXT TWO TO FOUR YEARS. ASIDE FROM THE YOUTH GROUPS OF COLDRIETTI AND CONFAGRICULTURA (BOTH AGRICULTURAL) AND THE YOUTH WINGS OF THE POLITICAL PARTIES (WHICH, WHILE TENDING TO BE MORE RADICAL THAN THEIR ELDERS, SHOW NO SIGNS OF HAVING ANY CONTROLLING INFLUENCE ON THEM, LIKE THE JUSOS IN GERMANY) THE CONFIDENTIAL

ONLY CONTENDERS FOR SUCH A ROLE ARE THE SO- CALLED EXTRA-PARLIAMENTARY GROUPS OF THE EXTREME LEFT AND RIGHT. THE EXTRAPARLIAMENTARY GROUPS OF BOTH EXTREMES CAN BE EX-PECTED TO CONTINUE SEEKING TO DISRUPT SOCIETY FOR THEIR OWN END, BUT THEY ARE DISOWNED BY ALL THE ESTABLISHED PAR-

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TIES INCLUDING THOSE MOST IDEOLOGICALLY AKIN. THESE GROUPS HAVE VERY LITTLE FOLLOWING, AND DESPITE THEIR CHALLENGE TO LAW AND ORDER AND THE CONSEQUENT PROBLEMS THEY POSE FOR GOVERNMENT, THEY ARE UNLIKELY TO PLAY ANY SIGNIFICANT LEADERSHIP ROLE.

II. OBJECTIVES

A. ASSURE ACCESS TO KEY FUTURE LEADERSHIP 40 PERCENT
HELP STRENGTHEN MODERATE, DEMOCRATIC
GROUPS AND INDIVIDUALS 25 PERCENT
FOSTER CLIMATE FOR CONTINUED UNDER-
STANDING OF US TRADE AND MONETARY
POLICIES 35 PERCENT

B. NOTWITHSTANDING THE OPPOSITION OF THE LARGEST COMMUNIST PARTY IN WESTERN EUROPE, THERE IS NEARLY UNANIMOUS AGREEMENT AMONG DEMOCRATIC PARTIES (INCLUDING MOST SOCIALISTS) ON THE IMPORTANCE TO ITALY OF A STRONG ATLANTIC ALLIANCE AND A CONTINUED CLOSE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE UNITED STATES. IT IS EQUALLY AGREED THAT ITALY' S FUTURE IS BEST ASSURED IN THE CONTEXT OF A POLITI-CALLY AND ECONOMICALLY UNIFIED EUROPE, AND THERE IS A HIGH DEGREE OF COMMONALITY OF VIEWS AMONG DEMOCRATIC ITALIAN YOUTH ON THE NEED TO PURSUE THE TWIN OBJECTIVES OF A UNIFIED EUROPE AND A VIABLE ATLANTIC PARTNERSHIP. THERE IS, HOWEVER, A NATURAL TENDENCY TO EMPHASIZE THE EUROPEAN TIE MORE

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TAGS: MARR, MOPS, VS
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